



Minutes of a meeting of the Environmental Improvements Committee held on Wednesday 01st June 2022 in the Selina Cooper Hall, Unity Well Being Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson

Commenced: 6.30pm - Concluded: 7.15pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Wayne Blackburn, Russell Tennant, Yvonne Tennant and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Councillors Ali Baig, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Michelle Pearson-Asher and Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): None

Observing Councillors (not a member of the committee): Zafar Ali and Mohammad Kamran Latif

Officers: Nick Harbour – Assistant Town Clerk

Members of the Public: None

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| 2022/001 (E1) | <p><u>ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> To elect a committee chair for the ensuing year</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Russell Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and RESOLVED: That the Councillor Yvonne Tennant is elected as Chair of the Environmental Improvements committee for the year 2022-23.</p> |
| 2022/002 (E1) | <p><u>ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR</u> To elect a committee vice-chair for the ensuing year</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Russell Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and RESOLVED: That the Councillor Wayne Blackburn is elected as Vice-Chair of the Environmental Improvements committee for the year 2022-23.</p> |
| 2022/003 (E1) | <p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Wayne Blackburn and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant, and RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors Patricia Hannah-Wood and Michelle Pearson-Asher are approved and accepted.</p> |

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| 2022/004 (EI) | <p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u> To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting. Officers are required to make a formal declaration about council contracts where the employee has a financial interest.</p> <p>None declared.</p> |
| 2022/005 (EI) | <p><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> To adjourn the meeting for 15 minutes to allow members of the public to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting. No resolutions can be under public participation.</p> <p>No members of the public present.</p> |
| 2022/006 (EI) | <p><u>MINUTES</u> To approve the draft minutes of the Environmental Improvements committee meeting held on 02 March 2022 (previously circulated)</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Blackburn and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant, and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Environmental Improvements committee meeting held on the 02 March 2022 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p> |
| 2022/007 (EI) | <p><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u> A standing item to identify and consider council initiatives which will help deal with the climate emergency through Nelson Town Council's functions, facilities, and any other remit.</p> <p>Whilst no new climate emergency issues were identified, Members discussed the possibility of setting up a Climate Emergency Issues Working Group. With this item not specifically stating the formation of a working group and only for raising any new issues, it was agreed that this would be placed on a future agenda for specific discussions.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Russell Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Yvonne Tennant, and RESOLVED: That an item is placed on a future meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a Climate Emergency Working Group.</p> |
| 2022/008 (EI) | <p><u>UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABILITY GOALS</u> To discuss United Nations Sustainability Goals as requested to be placed on this agenda at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Russell Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and RESOLVED: That this matter is looked at by the Climate Emergency Issues Working Group once it has been officially formed.</p> |
| 2022/009 (EI) | <p><u>ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS (PICK UP FOR PENDLE)</u> To receive an update from Members around the latest Pick up for Pendle projects which they have undertaken across the different wards.</p> <p>Councillors from all wards had recently attended a litter pick around the Home Bargains area of the town. This took place one Saturday morning for a couple of hours where a large amount of litter was cleared from the shrubbery in the surrounding area.</p> <p>Councillor Faraz Ahmad had conducted a number of litter picks in the Walverden area alongside other Councillors and residents.</p> <p>Given the upcoming Britain in Bloom competition, Members decided that the town centre should again be concentrated on for the next two projects.</p> |

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| | <p>Proposed by Councillor Blackburn and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant, and RESOLVED: That town centre litter picks are arranged for 18th June and 09th July and all all Councillors are requested to attend.</p> |
| 2022/010 (E1) | <p><u>ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT</u> To receive an update from Adrian Barrett with feedback from actions discussed at the last Allotments Society meeting.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had spoken with Adrian Barrett prior to the meeting and provided a brief update for the latest goings on with the allotments in and around Nelson. Lots of applications continue to be submitted by residents for allotments sites. These are passed on to Adrian who sends them off to the relevant site where the application is for.</p> <p>The Allotments Society are due to meet on Tuesday 07th June where they will update on progress at each site and also collect rents from allotment holders.</p> <p>Councillor Blackburn had been speaking to residents about allotment ownership on the site at Cemetery Allotments. He will speak with Adrian Barrett about this issue.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>Action: Councillor Blackburn to speak with Adrian Barrett about the site at Cemetery Allotments.</p> |
| 2022/011 (E1) | <p><u>PIGEON ISSUES</u> To receive an update around the Pigeon Issues in the town centre which was requested at the last meeting to become a standing item on the agenda.</p> <p>Issues with pigeons underneath the railway bridge now appear to be dealt with and the footpath below it has been jet washed by Pendle Borough Council.</p> <p>Now the summer months are here, problems are again starting to rise with people feeding pigeons in and around the town centre. The main area seems to be outside the entrance area to Pendle Rise Shopping Centre.</p> <p>Members asked that Pendle Borough Council be contacted again to ask about the possibility of Enforcement Officers issuing on the spot fines to people who throw food down for pigeons. It was also suggested that a copy of the recently designed leaflets around the health issues with feeding pigeons is published on the new electronic signage in the town centre to inform residents of the problem.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to contact Pendle Borough Council officers with regards to the signage information and the remit of the Enforcement Officers.</p> |
| 2022/012 (E1) | <p><u>PARKS</u> To receive an update around any environmental issues arising in Nelson's parks following site visits from Councillors of this committee.</p> <p>No environmental issues were identified at this meeting, although Councillor Sarwar did note that he had received several complaints from local residents who suspected some people were meeting in the parks to conduct drug deals. Whilst this is clearly a Police matter, it was also suggested that Councillor Sarwar may wish to liaise with the local Parks Friends Groups to discuss the matter further.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> |

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| | <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to send Councillor Sarwar the contact details for the local Parks Friends Groups.</p> |
| 2022/013 (E1) | <p><u>NELSON IN BLOOM</u> To discuss Nelson in Bloom as requested to be placed on this agenda at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant reminded Members that the Council had now overtaken the planters which Nelson in Bloom used to maintain in the town centre. These are due to be filled next week with new plants to match the ones which have been installed this week. Nelson in Bloom members will be concentrating on other projects – namely the Sagar Street War Memorial.</p> <p>Councillor Ali and the Assistant Town Clerk had recently been out on a site visit around the town centre in preparation for the upcoming Britain in Bloom judging day. This has now been set for Tuesday 12th July 2022. The new lighting planters have been installed throughout the town centre but a number of issues the judges picked up on last year remain. Weeding needs to be done in the main area, signage needs cleaning and the benches all could do with painting or varnishing. If these improvements are made, it will of course mean there would be a better chance of achieving a Gold Award for Nelson Town Centre. It is up to the Council which area the judges view, so a route needs planning around the best areas of the town which are likely to impress the judges the most.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and RESOLVED: That Councillor Ali and the Assistant Town Clerk are assigned to plan the route to take the judges on 12th July, and that the Town Council handyman is requested to work in the town centre in the week leading up to the judges visit to ensure that the town centre is as clean as possible. Councillors are also to be requested to litter pick the area the weekend before the visit.</p> |
| 2022/014 (E1) | <p><u>SAGAR STREET WAR MEMORIAL</u> To discuss the Sagar Street War Memorial as requested to be placed on this agenda at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant informed Members that Nelson in Bloom team are planning on doing some work to the Sagar Street War Memorial if they can get the required funding.</p> <p>The memorial has been left unattended for some time now as the team had been concentrating on the town centre area. Some of the plants at the site have now become overgrown and too big for the area.</p> <p>Members suggested that with the new McDonalds site potentially opening soon across the road from the memorial that they could be contacted to help maintain the site. It is likely there will be excess build up of waste around the area being so close to the memorial so it is vital that regular checks are conducted and the area remains free from rubbish.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to speak to Pendle Borough Council to check the details on what has been agreed with McDonalds in terms of keeping the site and surrounding areas free from litter.</p> <p>Councillor Blackburn also noted that the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II is coming in 2025 and that the Council should keep this in mind for plans over the coming months for the War Memorial.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> |
| 2022/015 (E1) | <p><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u> To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change sub-committee group • Nelson In Bloom |
| 2022/016 (EI) | <p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> To note the date of the next committee meeting which is scheduled for 7th September 2022.</p> <p>Members noted the date of the next meeting. An Extraordinary meeting of this committee may be called in July.</p> <p>There being no further, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 7.15pm.</p> |